

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 29, 2007. In the Office Action, claim 98-115 are allowed. Claims 70-76, 79-92 and 117-121 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding §102(e) rejections and maintain that a *prima facie* case of anticipation has not been established. However, Applicants have cancelled claims 70-76, 79-92 and 117-121 so that all of the pending claims, namely claims 98-115, are allowed. Hence, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the outstanding §102(e) rejection and issue a Notice of Allowance at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

In addition, Applicants reserve the right to further prosecute the cancelled claims and other claims of varying scope in a subsequent continuation.

Conclusion

Applicant reserves all rights with respect to the applicability of the doctrine of equivalents. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.